Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, In 1878, three men, William Preble, August Krueger, and Andrew Spurling hired 25 employees and began the manufacture and sale of rawhide products under the name of Chicago Rawhide Manufacturing Company; and,

Whereas, By 1882, Chicago Rawhide had a full line of products, including rawhide fly nets for horses, rawhide ropes, rawhide shoelaces, rawhide industrial belting, and even buggy whips; and,

Whereas, In 1928, Chicago Rawhide patented the first Perfect Oil Seal, made of leather, and a perfect example of breakthrough technology, and by 1938, 93 percent of automobile equipment built was equipped with this seal; and,

Whereas, With the advent of the space age in the late 1950s, Chicago Rawhide began providing seals for America's Jupiter "C" missile and Atlas Rocket programs; and,

Whereas, By 1965, Chicago Rawhide responded to the demand for a better oil bath seal for heavy-duty truck applications by introducing the Scotseal line that provided an effective and economical solution; and,

Whereas, In 1974, Chicago Rawhide established a facility in Springfield, South Dakota, which has served as one of the company's key manufacturing centers for nearly 30 years; and,

Whereas, In 1990, SKF USA, Inc., the world-renowned leader in rolling bearing technology, purchased Chicago Rawhide to create a solid platform for further innovation with this logical combination of bearings and seals; and,

Whereas, Chicago Rawhide is recognized for its active corporate participation in the Springfield community as it celebrates its 125th Anniversary:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 31, 2003, as

CHICAGO RAWHIDE DAY

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Thirtieth Day of May in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State